Research and Development of Neem Pesticides

2203. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2359 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Research and Development work is in progress on Neem tree in West Germany, USA and Australia; if so, the reasons for India is lagging behind;

(b) whether any Research and Development has been in progress on use of Neem Tree as Pesticide for over last forty years in Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi NDRI, and several other places, in India; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any standardised products are now available in the country; if not, the reasons therefor and corrective steps in progress in this regard;

(d) whether public sector units in the country would be asked to take manufacturing process on the basis of findings of the Research and Development; and

(e) whether Government are aware that use of Neem would reduce overall pollution of environment, including air, soil and water and human habitation?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Sir, Government are aware of the research activities on Neem tree in West Germany, USA and Australia. Considerable headway has been made on research and development work on Neem in India also.

(b) The Research and Development work on Neem has been carried out at Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi and several other places in the country on identification and isolation of active compounds in Neem. The main emphasis is to develop technology for using Neem based commonds as substitutes for chemical pesticides.

(c) National Chemical Laboratory Pune has successfully developed its first enriched neem extracts "Neemrich-I" and "Neemrich-II" available from within our country. Neem products have been included in the schedule of insecticides Act.

(d) Since the development of the entire process is yet to be perfected, it would be premature to ask public sector units to take up its manufacture.

(e) Yes.

State Govt's. liquor sale rules

2204. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Haryana has relaxed liquor sale rules as reported in the Economic Times of the 12th February, 1990; and

(b) whether this is in keeping with the Central Government's policies and programmes and the principles enshrined in our Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Government.

Cancellation of World Bank assistance to Thal Project

2205. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has cancelled its loan advanced to Thal Project;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any other financial assistance has been sought from any other international financial institutions to complete the Thal Project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?